



20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Welcome to the last Parent Bulletin of this half term!

After the excitement of Open Evening, focus has shifted here at Trafalgar to all the exciting events still ahead.

Our Year 10 students had an assembly about Work Experience expectations for this year and were encouraged to start looking for placements for next May. Our WEX parent launch is taking place on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and details will be shared via Class Charts. Please watch our video on social media and our website for tips on how to secure a placement, along with advice from our previous Year 10 students. If you have any questions regarding Work Experience or are willing to offer a placement to one of our students at your workplace - please contact Miss Passmore on [careers@trafalgarschool.org.uk](mailto:careers@trafalgarschool.org.uk).

Earlier this week we announced our Year 11 Prom date for 2024. We are excited to announce that it will be taking place on the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at the Queens Hotel! Tickets will be £40 with a £10 deposit. Prom deposits can be paid via Parent Pay and need to be in by 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Stay safe and have a great half term break!

**Team Trafalgar**

## Community Circles

This week, our checkout question was:

**“What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think about the word ‘fun’?”**

The majority of activities mentioned involved spending time with friends, loved ones and connecting with others. It's no surprise, as we are built to connect with others. It's relationships. That's why we at Trafalgar value them so much.

Activities week was also mentioned. This is a great example of how we intentionally build and maintain relationships. How did your child/children answer? How would you answer?

**#funandconnection #teamtrafalgar**



### Key Dates

2023

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October** - Half Term

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October** - Students back in school

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November** - Presentation Evening

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November** - Year 9 Parents Evening

### Uniform & Equipment

Please ensure your children have the correct uniform & equipment with them each day. If you require any support, contact your child's form tutor. You can find details of what they need [here](#).



@TrafalgarSch

[trafalgarschool.org.uk](http://trafalgarschool.org.uk)

# Music Department Update

After a fantastic year of learning rhythms and notation, creating melodies and singing their hearts out, Year 8 students are now learning the key elements of popular music today.

This half term has seen them mastering chords and basslines through Blues music and creating short performances. Next half term will see them using their new techniques and knowledge to create dance tracks that get stuck in your head!



## Job opportunities at Trafalgar School

We are currently recruiting for the following roles to join our fantastic team here at Trafalgar:

- Teacher of Science
- Teacher of Physical Education
- Senior Administration Assistant
- Exam Invigilator

If you, or someone you know, would be great for any of these roles then visit our website to find out more and apply!

[Vacancies @ Trafalgar](#)

**JOIN OUR TEAM**

- Teacher of PE
- Teacher of Science
- Senior Administration Assistant
- Exam Invigilator

A recruitment poster for Trafalgar School. The top half features the text "JOIN OUR TEAM" in large, bold, white letters against a background of colorful geometric shapes (green, red, purple). Below this, there is a photograph of a smiling woman in a yellow and blue jacket wearing a headset, and a smiling boy in a school uniform. The bottom right corner features the Trafalgar School logo, which is a stylized sailboat on a colorful diamond shape.

@TrafalgarSch

trafalgarschool.org.uk

**SW** Steve Willis  
Training Centres

SPECIALISTS IN GAS, OIL,  
ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING &  
RENEWABLES TRAINING



# APPRENTICESHIP OPEN DAYS

*Meet the trainers, test your future*



*Scan me for more info*

**stevewillis.com**  
**apprenticeships@stevewillis.com**  
**01444 870 860 | 02392 190 190**

**PORTCHESTER** | MURRILS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE | PO16 9RD  
TUESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER - 1:00PM-7:00PM  
SATURDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER - 9:00AM-1:00PM  
TUESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY - 1:00PM-7:00PM

**BURGESS HILL** | SHEDDINGDEAN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE | RH15 8QY  
THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER - 1:00PM-7:00PM  
SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER - 9:00AM-1:00PM  
THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY - 1:00PM-7:00PM



@TrafalgarSch

trafalgarschool.org.uk

# SOCIAL MEDIA 101

Social media platforms constantly evolve, with even the most popular platforms seeing fluctuations in engagement. Whether the child in your care uses Instagram, TikTok, or any new platform, understanding the key features will help you grasp the appeal and recognise associated risks.

## 10 FEATURES OF SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

### User Hashtags & Trends

Hashtags help categorise and organise content, making it discoverable by users interested in specific topics.

### User Profiles

Personal profiles are online identities, with usernames, bios, profile pics, and optional details.

### Interactions & Engagement

Interactions between users such as likes, reactions, comments, shares or reposts.

### Notifications

Alerts users about profile activities such as mentions, comments, likes, friend requests.

### Search & Discovery

Search finds accounts, hashtags, topics, and trending content. Discovery suggests new content based on interests.

### Newsfeeds/Timelines

Displays content shared by users and the accounts they follow, tailored to user preferences, connections, and interactions.

### Posting & Sharing

Text, photos, videos, links, and articles shared with online connections or publicly.

### Privacy & Security Settings

Options to control privacy, audiences, viewing permissions, and account security.

### Connecting & Following

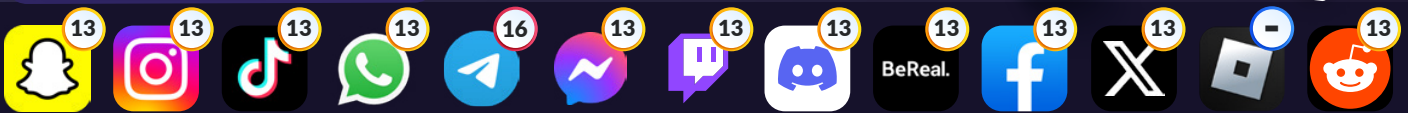
Connections through friend/follow requests keep users updated on activities and content. Connections may be mutual (both users follow each other) or one-sided (one user follows another without reciprocation).

### Messaging & Communications

Direct messages, group chats, voice/video calls facilitate communication between users.

Something we are starting to see more of is the integration of AI as a more visible feature on social media platforms.

NO AGE RATING



## RISKS AND TOP TIPS

### Age Verification

- Most platforms have age ratings to stop users viewing age-inappropriate content.
- Not all platforms have robust verification methods.
- Ensure young people are registered as the correct age (a 12 year old who registers as 16 will see content designed for an adult after two years)
- Look for platforms using YOTI as their age verification method. This facial scanning technology is harder to get around than most other methods.

### End-to-End Encryption

- This ensures a message between the sender and recipient can't be viewed by anyone else - even the police or hackers!
- Encryption provides an opportunity for predators to groom young users without detection.
- Make sure they understand what to do if someone is making them feel uncomfortable.
- Talk to young people about accepting requests or adding people they don't know.

### Digital Footprint

- Whatever a young person posts online leaves a digital footprint that could impact their future.
- Universities, friends, and even employers might come across their previous online activity.
- Help your child set up their accounts so that posts are visible only to friends and not the public.
- Make sure a young person only posts content they would be comfortable with anyone seeing.

### Algorithms

- The content a user interacts with or searches for influences what they will see next.
- This may affect an impressionable young person's thoughts and actions.
- Understand that one piece of harmful content can lead to the algorithm showing you more.
- Keep in mind the negativity bias. Just like staring at a car crash on the road, it doesn't imply a desire for more or an enjoyment of it, but rather reflects how our brains tend to focus on the negative for longer.

### Persuasive Design

- Clever design features keep users engaged on social media platforms for longer, through things like the endless scroll or push notifications.
- This can lead to excessive screen-time and in some cases, addiction.
- Agree screentime limits with young people to promote a healthy balance between offline and online activities.
- Encourage them to recognise when they are being influenced to stay online.

### Personal Information

- Information such as full names, locations, or other platform usernames are frequently shared on social media.
- Sharing this information may seem harmless to young people, but can be exploited by predators and cybercriminals for harmful purposes.
- Ensure children know what is appropriate to share online and what isn't.
- Make sure they know that bios can be seen by everyone, even with a private account.
- Remind them to scan their photos for anything that could identify them before they are posted.